

Religion's Role in Immigration in a Multiculturalist Context

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SOC 334: Sociology of Religion

Research Question

How does religious affiliation play a role in attitudes towards immigration?

Research and Key Points

- Investigate two key areas: US and Europe
 - Two religiously diverse regions that face the dilemma of immigration
- Religious affiliation in the US showed a trend for negative attitudes towards immigration
 - Protestants and White Catholics were the main groups that exhibited these negative attitudes
- Roman Catholics held both favorable and unfavorable attitudes towards immigrants, creating a division in American Catholicism
- In Europe, religious affiliation tends to result in more positive attitudes towards immigrants
- Multiculturalism: Issue of **native identity** v. **immigrant identity** arises as regions become more religiously diverse

Interview with Dr. Neomi De Anda

- Associate Professor of Religious Studies at UD with Catholic background
- Spent much of her career with HOPE
- Emphasized role of religious leaders to encourage positive attitudes and political reform



The HOPE Border Institute is a Catholic organization that works toward uniting different religions and pushing for change on the issue of the US-Mexico border

Conclusion and Future Research

- Religious affiliation plays both a positive and negative role in societies across the globe
- In the future, we may hope to see more research in regions that may not be as diverse

References

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